

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. **(Previously Presented)** A method for preparing graphite nanospheres having a structure comprising a plurality of frustum of pyramids of multilayer graphite disposed with no spaces therebetween with their apexes concentrated at center, the appearance thereof being substantially spherical, said method comprising emitting carbon atoms or clusters into an inert gas atmosphere under a pressure of 5 to 10 atm at a temperature of no less than 1000°C.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15 for preparing graphite nanospheres, wherein carbon atoms or clusters at a temperature of no less than 1000°C are emitted by irradiating a carbon target with a CO<sub>2</sub> laser in an inert gas atmosphere under a pressure of 5 to 10 atm.

17. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15 for preparing graphite nanospheres, wherein the maximum outer diameter of the graphite particles is controlled by changing the kind of the inert gas, the pressure or the temperature.

18. **(New)** A method for preparing graphite nanospheres, said method comprising emitting carbon atoms or clusters into an inert gas atmosphere under a pressure of 5 to 10 atm at a temperature of no less than 1000°C.

19. **(New)** A method for preparing graphite nanospheres according to claim 18, said nanospheres comprising a plurality of frustum of pyramids of multilayer graphite, with their apexes concentrated at center the appearance thereof being substantially spherical.